(b) and (d) The combined use of organic manures with chemical fertilizers has been found to be beneficial, both under research trials and in farmers' fields in various agroclimatic zones, including rainfed areas. However, the use of chemical fertilizers is necessary for high yielding variety crops which have high nutrient requirement and which cannot be met through the application of organic manures alone.

(c) There is no proposal under consideration to ban burning of organic manures. The farmers are however, advised constantly to use large quantities of organic manures.

Extension of crop insurance scheme

*476. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to extend Crop Insurance Scheme to cent per cent areas; and

(b) if so, what are the details in regard thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON): (a) and (b) There is no proposal to make the Scheme compulsory for all the areas.

Central Assistance to Maharashtra under Article 275(1) of the constitution

*477. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether grant-in-aid under the first proviso to Article 275(1) of the Indian Constitution released by the Ministry of Welfare forms the part of the total Central Assistance sanctioned for the State Plan approved outlay;

(b) whether the Government of Maharashtra have asked this clarification right from and June 1983 without any response from Government; and

(c) what is the present position in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (DR. RAJENDRA KUMARI BAJPAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No. Sir. The matter was clarified in the meeting of the State Coordination Committee for Tribal Development Department held on 23rd June, 1986 under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary to Government of Maharashtra at Bombay.

Setting up of disaster management body

*478 SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to set up a Disaster Management Body with adequate funds to manage floods, famines and other national disasters from time to time; and

(b) if so, the details of the same and by when it is likely to start operation?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI G. S. DHILLON): (a) There was a proposal to set up a National Institute for Disaster Management in the 7th Five Year Plan. The main functions of the Institute were to be (i) training of Central and State Government officials and agencies engaged in disaster management; (ii) advisory services to States and other countries on disaster management; and (iii) acting as clearing house for all information about disasters and preparation of contingency plans. The proposed Institute was not intended to have any funds under its control or other functions for managing natural calamities. The proposal for establishment of this Institute has been deferred for the present due to constraint of resources.

(b) Does not arise.